

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification in accordance with the following:

On page 1, please insert the following between the first and second full paragraphs:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 3, please insert the following between the 2nd and 3rd full paragraphs:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 4, please amend the 5th through 7th paragraphs, with the following corrections:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The invention is schematically explained in Figures 1 ~~and through 32~~ and is described in detail, where reference is made to the drawings.

Figure 1 schematically shows an embodiment of the invention when using 4 pumps; ~~-~~

Figure 2 schematically shows a diagram which indicates the Raman interactions between two orthogonal polarized and between two copolarized wavelengths; ~~and -~~

Figure 3 schematically shows a WDM optical communication system of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

On page 5, please insert the following after the last full paragraph:

Finally, as shown in Figure 3, a WDM optical communication system of the present invention, contains input and output means for an optical signal. There is an optical fibre path connecting signal-transmissively the input and output means, where the optic signal is amplified by means of Raman amplification via at least one Raman amplifier. Further, the system contains comprises WDM means for coupling at least two polarized pump radiation wavelengths with wavelengths less than the signal radiation wavelength into said Raman amplifier, whereby one pump radiation wavelength has a selected different polarization with respect to the polarization of the other pump radiation wavelengths.